

**METHOD FOR SELECTING A RESOURCE TO PROVIDE A
REQUESTED SERVICE IN A MULTICASTING ENVIRONMENT**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method is provided for selecting a resource from a plurality of potential resources in order to provide a service in response to a service request. The method comprises the following steps. Aging services are determined by estimating which of the resources are likely to become available. One of the aging services is disconnected from its resource. The resource is then used for providing the service in the service request. In accordance with a further aspect of the present invention, an oldest service is determined. The oldest service is defined as the service that is most likely to be disconnected from its resource. The oldest service is disconnected from its resource, which is then used for providing the service in the service request.

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